This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

1   3. (previously presented), A method for identifying an
2   acoustic scene, comprising the steps of:
3   recording an acoustic input signal; and
4   providing at least two processing stages wherein
5   an extraction phase is provided in at least one of the at
6   least two processing stages, in which said
7   extraction phase characteristic features are
8   extracted from the input signal, and wherein
9   an identification phase is provided in each processing
10   stage, in which said identification phase the
11   extracted characteristic features are classified,
12   and further wherein
13   class information is generated according to the
14   classification of the features in at least one of
15   the processing stages, wherein said class
16   information characterizes or identifies the acoustic
17   scene,
18   wherein a manner of processing in a processing stage is
19   selected according to the class information obtained
20   in another processing stage.

1   4. (previously presented), A method for identifying an
2   acoustic scene, comprising the steps of:
3   recording an acoustic input signal; and
4   providing at least two processing stages wherein
5   an extraction phase is provided in at least one of the at
6   least two processing stages, in which said

7   extraction phase characteristic features are

8   extracted from the input signal, and wherein

9   an identification phase is provided in each processing

10   stage, in which said identification phase the

11   extracted characteristic features are classified,

12   and further wherein

13   class information is generated according to the

14   classification of the features in at least one of

15   the processing stages, wherein said class

16   information characterizes or identifies the acoustic

17   scene, and wherein an extraction phase is provided

18   in each processing stage, in which extraction phase

19   characteristic features are extracted from the input

20   signal, and further wherein

21   a manner of processing in a processing stage is selected

22   according to the class information obtained in

23   another processing stage.

1   5. (previously presented), A method for identifying an

2   acoustic scene, comprising the steps of:

3   recording an acoustic input signal; and

4   providing at least two processing stages wherein

5   an extraction phase is provided in at least one of the at

6   least two processing stages, in which said

7   extraction phase characteristic features are

8   extracted from the input signal, and wherein

9   an identification phase is provided in each processing

10   stage, in which said identification phase the

11   extracted characteristic features are classified,

12   and further wherein

13   class information is generated according to the

14   classification of the features in at least one of

15   the processing stages, wherein said class

16   information characterizes or identifies the acoustic

17   scene, and wherein an extraction phase is provided

18   in each processing stage, in which extraction phase

19   characteristic features are extracted from the input

20   signal, and further wherein

21   the class information obtained in the identification

22   . phase of a processing stage i determines a

23   processing manner in one of the following, inferior

24   processing stages i+1.

1   6. (original) The method according to claim 3, wherein

2   the class information obtained in the identification phase of

3   a processing stage i determines a processing manner in one of

4   the following, inferior processing stages i+1.

1   7. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein

2   the class information obtained in the identification phase of

3   a processing stage i determines a processing manner in one of

4   the following, inferior processing stages i+1.

1   8. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein,

2   according to class information obtained in the processing

3   stage i, specific features are selected in the extraction

4   phase of the following, inferior processing stage i+1 and/or

5   specific classification methods are selected in the

6   identification phase of the following, inferior processing

7   stage i+1.

1   9. (original) The method according to claim 6, wherein,

2   according to class information obtained in the processing

3   stage i, specific features are selected in the extraction

4   phase of the following, inferior processing stage i+1 and/or

5   specific classification methods are selected in the

6   identification phase of the following, inferior processing

7   stage i+1.

1   10. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein,

2 according to class information obtained in the processing

3 stage i, specific features are selected in the extraction

4 phase of the following, inferior processing stage i+1 and/or

5 specific classification methods are selected in the

6 identification phase of the following, inferior processing

7 stage i+1.

      Claims 11-12 (canceled).

1   13. (original) Method according to claim 3, wherein a

2 post-processing phase is provided in at least one processing

3 stage subsequent to the extraction phase, in which

4 postprocessing stage the class information are revised in

5 order to generate revised class information.

1   14. (original) Method according to claim 4, wherein a

2 post-processing phase is provided in at least one processing

3 stage subsequent to the extraction phase, in which

4 postprocessing stage the class information are revised in

5 order to generate revised class information.

1   15. (original) Method according to claim 5, wherein a

2 post-processing phase is provided in at least one processing

3 stage subsequent to the extraction phase, in which

4 postprocessing stage the class information are revised in

5 order to generate revised class information.

1   16. (original) Method according to claim 6, wherein a

2 post-processing phase is provided in at least one processing

3 stage subsequent to the extraction phase, in which

4 postprocessing stage the class information are revised in

5 order to generate revised class information.

1   17. (original) Method according to claim 7, wherein a
2   post-processing phase is provided in at least one processing
3   stage subsequent to the extraction phase, in which
4   postprocessing stage the class information are revised in
5   order to generate revised class information.

1   18. (original) Method according to claim 8, wherein a
2   post-processing phase is provided in at least one processing
3   stage subsequent to the extraction phase, in which
4   postprocessing stage the class information are revised in
5   order to generate revised class information.

1   19. (currently amended) The method according to claim
2   [[1]] 3, wherein one or more of the following classification
3   methods is used in the identification phase:
4   -Hidden Markov Models;
5   -Fuzzy Logic;
6   -Bayes Classifier;
7   -Rule-based Classifier
8   -Neuronal Networks; and
9   -Minimal Distance.

1   20. (currently amended) Method according to claim [[1]]
2   3, wherein technical and/or auditory-based features are
3   extracted in the extraction phase.

1   21. (currently amended) Use of the method according to
2   one of the claims 3-10 and 13-20 1 to 20 for the adjustment of
3   at least one hearing device to a momentary acoustic scene.

1   22. (original) Use of the method according to claim 21,
2   wherein a hearing program or a transfer function between at
3   least one microphone and a speaker in a hearing device is

4   selected according to a determined acoustic scene.

1   23. (currently amended) Use of the method according to

2   one of the claims 3-10 and 13-20 ~~1 to 20~~ for speech analysis

3   or speech detection.

1   24. (canceled).

1   25. (previously presented) The device according to claim

2   42, further comprising a feature extraction unit in each

3   processing stage.

1   26. (previously presented) The device according to claim

2   42, wherein the class information is fed to other processing

3   stages.

1   27. (original) The device according to claim 25, wherein

2   the class information is fed to other processing stages.

1   28. (previously presented) The device according to claim

2   42, wherein the class information of a processing stage i is

3   fed to a following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   29. (original) The device according to claim 25, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   30. (original) The device according to claim 26, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   31. (original) The device according to claim 27, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

Amendments to the Claims   Page 7 of 12

1   32. (original) The device according to claim 28, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   feature extraction unit of a following, inferior processing

4   stage i+1, and/or wherein the class information of a

5   processing stage i is fed to a classification unit of a

6   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   33. (original) The device according to claim 29, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   feature extraction unit of a following, inferior processing

4   stage i+1, and/or wherein the class information of a

5   processing stage i is fed to a classification unit of a

6   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   34. (original) The device according to claim 30, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   feature extraction unit of a following, inferior processing

4   stage i+1, and/or wherein the class information of a

5   processing stage i is fed to a classification unit of a

6   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   35. (original) The device according to claim 31, wherein

2   the class information of a processing stage i is fed to a

3   feature extraction unit of a following, inferior processing

4   stage i+1, and/or wherein the class information of a

5   processing stage i is fed to a classification unit of a

6   following, inferior processing stage i+1.

1   36. (previously presented) The device according to one of

2   the claims 25 to 35 and 42, wherein the class information

3   obtained in at least one processing stage is fed to a post-

4   processing unit in order to generate revised class

5   information.

Amendments to the Claims   Page 8 of 12

1   37. (previously presented) The device according to claim

2   42 or 25, wherein the class information of all processing

3   stages is fed to a decision unit.

1   38. (original) The device according to claim 37, wherein

2   the decision unit is operatively connected to at least one of

3   the feature extraction units and/or to at least one of the

4   classification units.

1   39. (previously presented) A hearing device with a

2   transfer unit operatively connected to at least one microphone

3   and to a converter unit, in particular to a speaker, and with

4   a device according to one of the claims 25 to 35 and 42 for

5   generating class information, whereas the class information is

6   fed to the transfer unit.

1   40. (currently amended) The hearing device according to

2   claim 39, further comprising an input unit which is

3   operatively connected to the transfer unit ~~and/or with the~~

4   ~~device according to one of the claims 25 to 35 and 42~~.

1   41. (currently amended) The hearing device according to

2   claim 40, comprising a wireless link between the input unit

3   and the transfer unit ~~and/or between the input unit and the~~

4   ~~device according to one of the claims 25 to 35 and 42,~~

5   ~~respectively~~.

1   42. (previously presented) A device for identifying an

2   acoustic scene in an input signal, the device comprising:

3   - at least two processing stages;

4   - a feature extraction unit in at least one of the at

5   least two processing stages; and

6   - a classification unit in each one of said at least two

7   processing stages, wherein

8   the input signal is fed to the feature extraction unit,

9   an output of which is at least fed to one of the at

10   least two classification units, and wherein at least

11   one of the at least two classification units is

12   operatively connected to at least another of the at

13   least two classification units in order to adjust

14   processing according to class information in another

15   processing stage.